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## NEVADA FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Certified

MAY 2 4 2004

DEAN HELLER
SECRETARY OF STATE

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To all Nevada Voters, the press, government employees and elected officials who will take the time to review this Financial Disclosure Statement, I offer the following response:

The District Court of Nevada located in Carson City recently (2003 AD) ruled concerning Independent American Party candidates that a blank Financial Disclosure form filed timely was all that was required by law for ANY candidate of any party.

The Independent American Party of Nevada has been fighting these forms for almost ten years because they promote a false sense of security to Nevada voters. Voters may believe what they read on them, yet the Secretary of State or the Nevada Commission on Ethics does not audit the forms. The Secretary of State has admitted this to the Independent American Party Chairman, Christopher Hansen. The court also ruled the government had no investigative authority concerning these forms unless an outside party files a complaint. The Secretary of State asked the 2003 AD Legislature for audit and investigative authority but the Legislature turned him down because they did not want these forms audited or investigated. This is stated in the minutes on these hearings found on the Nevada Legislature web site. The Legislature just wanted an illusion that someone was keeping an eye on corruption. These laws are nothing but empty lies to Nevada voters and the Legislature acted to keep it that way.

Historically, only political opponents file complaints about these forms. Such complaints, even when found to be without substance, cause hardship upon the innocent candidates, thus forcing them to defend themselves against the false accusations. There is no way to recover the time and costs from those who are false accusers; instead, their cheap political tricks succeed in harming the innocent candidate. This deters many regular Nevadans from running for office. It is a system ripe for corruption while claiming the purpose is to stop corruption.

The guilty on the other hand often go unpunished. Admitted dishonest ex-county commissioner Erin Kenny, for example, submitted her last Financial Disclosure Statement saying she had received no gifts. Later, she admitted to the FBI that she took gifts from accused mobsters. The FBI let Erin Kenny keep these huge "gifts" and it is reported in the Las Vegas Review-Journal that she is buying a \$900,000.00 home. No fines have been levied against Erin Kenny even though she pleaded guilty to taking bribes. On the other hand, 12 Independent American Party candidates were taken to court and threatened with possible fines over \$100,000.00 because the Nevada Commission on Ethics would not answer direct party questions concerning the forms. The NCOE lost in court but the damage was done and the costs to defend against these civil penalties hurt all of those candidates. The NCOE even gave candidates false or misleading information on the forms themselves, which had to be corrected on the current forms. Because of this refusal and the errors on the forms, IAP candidates refused to give information until the questions were answered. As a result, they candidates were punished for their honest concerns by being dragged in court. Does there seem to be a huge inequity between a real and admitted crime, like Erin Kenney's with no fines as a result, and the non-crimes of IAP candidates with resulting expense and threats of fines?

Amazingly, the new forms do not even require candidates to swear or affirm that statements they make on the forms are true and correct. They are, therefore, nothing but "feel good" forms established to make Nevada voters believe someone is keeping an eye on corruption while the truth is that these forms assist in corruption and hurt our political system.

You can see the value, then, that these forms and laws provide useful information to be used by the enemies and opponents of honest candidates to intimidate candidates' employers and campaign donors . . . especially those in minor parties. In contrast, established candidates like Erin Kenny with big money "gifts" from strip club owners and casino donors have nothing to fear because they know they can lie on the forms with no real threat of repercussions, as they are protected by their elected friends and government employees who are employed at the expense of Nevada Taxpayers.

Some people say we Independent American Party members are just paranoid to think that government entities or individuals would use the information on the forms to harm the IAP, but harassment and even arrests of petitioners belonging to the IAP who lawfully gather signatures for the petition to repeal the recent Tax Increase has demonstrated that the government of Nevada and its employees will even violate the law to stop Independent Americans from exercising their rights. Governor Guinn promised that petitioners would not be harassed. Then, just a few days later, two Independent American party members were actually arrested for petitioning lawfully. See: <a href="https://secure.rgj.com/news/stories/html/2004/05/10/70411.php">https://secure.rgj.com/news/stories/html/2004/05/10/70411.php</a>

Other Independent Americans were harassed at DMV in violation of continued promises to stop such harassment. See: <a href="http://www.lasvegassun.com/sunbin/stories/lv-other/2004/may/13/516849142.html">http://www.lasvegassun.com/sunbin/stories/lv-other/2004/may/13/516849142.html</a>.

How can we trust that the government will be fair concerning enforcement of the Ethics Laws when they have proven to be lawbreakers, harassers and liars concerning our petition efforts? The answer, of course, is that we cannot trust our own government. The Founding Fathers warned us not to trust them. Thomas Jefferson said, "Don't speak to me of the eloquence of politicians, tie them down with the chains of a constitution."

These disclosure forms attempt to break the chains placed on politicians and bypass the restrictions on government by the Nevada Constitution This is why we oppose them. After all: "It is not the function of our Government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the government from falling into error." America Communicators Association vs. Douds, 339 U. S. 382, 442. We Independent Americans are trying to keep the government from falling into error.

Information demanded on these forms concerning candidate's financial status and also their family members' finances can be used by such government lawbreakers to harm and intimidate candidates, their families and potential donors. Then these people like to call it a "mistake" or "error" like the Department of Motor Vehicles has done with petitioners. But the damage is done. The time and money and effort are lost. This harassment by state governments

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against minority groups has been a problem confirmed even by the United States Supreme Court in NAACP v. ALABAMA, 360 U.S. 240 clear back in 1959.

Furthermore, the Nevada Commission on Ethics and the Secretary of State have refused to answer our questions concerning confusing and unclear words and phrases used on these forms for years that do not seem to conform to constitutional requirements. The Secretary of State said our questions placed him on the "Horns of Dilemma" and he refused to answer them. If the forms have such possible constitutional violations and are so confusing that questions about them put the Secretary of State on the "Horns of a Dilemma," why should anyone be forced to file such forms? Wouldn't filing the forms also place candidates on the "Horns of Dilemma?" If that is a legitimate excuse for the Secretary of State to use to refuse to answer our questions, is it not a legitimate excuse for candidates also? Do not all have the right to equal justice under law?

These types of forms have been called confusing by Senator Townsend and many other Nevada Assemblymen and Senators in hearings at the Nevada Legislature. Many elected officials have voiced concerns that these forms are chasing regular people away from running for office by intruding too much on their personal lives. Some candidates have even been scared away because a simple mistake could cost a new candidate tens of thousands of dollars in civil penalties and legal costs. The IAP lost several candidates this year who were too fearful because of all the past harassment by the Secretary of State and the Nevada Commission of Ethics to run for office a second time. No one knows how many other Nevadans have been intimidated by the increasing number of requirements and forms to run for office. Soon only the rich or well-financed will be able to run for office and our system of Citizen legislators will come to an end. We'll be ruled by only the rich and powerful. Even the IRS is now demanding information from candidates and every freedom loving American knows the IRS cannot be trusted.

Here is one more example that left me speechless. On the day I filed for office at the Clark County Election office in Las Vegas, I was presented a 'Candidate Acknowledgement' form which I was told I was required to sign. I have the form still and the county has a copy. Then, I received a copy of an e-mail exchange between the IAP's state chairman Christopher Hansen and an Election Division employee. When questioned about where to find the state law specifying the use of the 'Candidate Acknowledgement,' it turns out that the truth is that the Secretary of State just made it up. The form is not authorized by law! It's a lie! Here are the contents of those two e-mails:

## >>> Christopher Hansen

<christopher@independentamerican.org> 05/05/04 08:35PM >>>
Hi Renee.

I searched the Election laws and Administrative code and I cannot find where the "Candidate Acknowledgment" form requirements are found. Can you please instruct me on where I can find all the NRS or and NAC concerning that form?

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